1		SANKRUPTCY COURT
2	DISTRICT C	OF DELAWARE
3	IN RE:	. Chapter 11 .
4	ZOHAR III CORP., et al.,	. Case No. 18-10512 (KBO)
5	Debtors.	
6	BLANK ROME LLP, FFP (CAYMAN) LIMITED, MAPLES AND CALDER	
7	MAPLESFS LIMITED, MORRIS, NICHOLS, ARSHT & TUNNELL LLP,	
8	GARY NEEMS, AND QUINN EMANUEL	•
9	URQUHART & SULLIVAN LLP,	•
10	Plaintiffs.	· .
11	v.	. Adv. Proc. No. 19-50273
12	ZOHAR CDO 2003-1 CORP. AND ZOHAR CDO 2003-1 LIMITED	•
13	ZOHAR CDO 2003-1, LIMITED; ZOHARII 2005-1, LIMITED; AND	_· · ·
14	ZOHAR III, LIMITED,	•
15	Plaintiffs.	•
16	v.	. Adv. Proc. No. 20-50534
17	PATRIARCH PARTNERS, LLC;	•
18	PATRIARCH PARTNERS VIII, LLC; PARTRIARCH PARTNERS XIV, LLC;	
19	PATRIARCH PARTNERS XV, LLC; PHOENIX VIII, LLC; OCTALUNA LLC	2;.
20	OCTALUNA II LLC; OCTALUNA III, LLC; ARK II CLO 2001-1, LLC;	
21	ARK INVESTMENT PARTNERS II, LP; ARK ANGELS VII, LLC; PATRIARCH	
22	PARTNERS MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC;	. Courtroom No. 1
23	PATRIARCH PARTNERS AGENCY SERVICES, LLC; AND LYNN TILTON,	
24	Defendants.	. April 21, 2020
25		. 1:30 P.M.

1	TRANSCRIPT OF TELEPHONIC HEARING	
2	BEFORE THE HONORABLE KAREN B. OWENS UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE	
3		
4	TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES:	
5	For the Debtors:	Michael Nestor, Esquire Drew Magaziner, Esquire
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7		Joseph Barry, Esquire
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16	transcript produced by transcription service.	
17	TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES (Continued):	
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25		

1	MATTERS GOING FORWARD:		
2	#12) Patriarch Stakeholders' Motion to Amend the Court's March 30, 2020 Order [(SEALED) D.I. 1553; 4/2/20; (REDACTED) D.I. 1579; 4/15/20]		
4			
5			
6	#10) Debtors' and Independent Director's Joint Emergency Motion for Entry of an Order Declaring that the Debtors		
7	Control the Portfolio Companies and Granting Related Relief [(SEALED) D.I. 1505; 3/23/20; (REDACTED) D.I. 1599; 4/16/20		
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1 (Telephonic proceedings commence at 1:31 p.m.) 2 THE COURT: Counsel, this is Judge Owens. Thank 3 you very much for appearing telephonically today. I 4 understand we have two substantive motions to address today. 5 So, why don't I turn it over for counsel for the 6 debtors to take us through the agenda today. I'm sorry, is 7 counsel for the debtors on the line? 8 MR. BARRY: He may have gotten disconnected. I 9 think we had this issue in the past. I will -- if I could 10 ask the court for a moment I will try and reach him. 11 THE COURT: Okay. Is this Mr. Barry? 12 MR. BARRY: Its Joe Barry, Your Honor, for the 13 record. 14 MR. NESTOR: Can you guys hear me? 15 THE COURT: Mr. Nestor, yes. This is Judge Owens. 16 MR. NESTOR: Can you hear me? 17 THE COURT: I can hear you. This is Judge Owens. 18 Can you hear me? 19 MR. NESTOR: Yeah, I can. Sorry about that. I 20 actually picked up the phone to talk so it would be clearer. 21 I put it back on the box. It seems like there must be a 22 problem with my phone. I apologize. 23 THE COURT: Not a problem. I thought maybe I was 24 not connected to the line. So, that's the explanation of why 25 it was silent for so long.

Thank you for joining. Why don't you take us through the agenda today.

MR. NESTOR: Thank you, Your Honor.

I wanted to give you two points and a suggestion with respect to this hearing. First, did you get the number identification that I had emailed to your Chambers for the five portfolio companies?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. NESTOR: Okay. I wanted to let you know, just as an update, with respect to number two; the debtors had noticed up a shareholder meeting with respect to filling the sole director of that company. Ms. Tilton has also noticed up a shareholder meeting for the same purpose. But I wanted to let you know that the meeting did occur, the votes were tallied, and the debtors candidate was selected as the sole member -- as the sole director of number two.

Again, preliminarily, and this is just the debtors perspective, there have been allegations of false emergencies, rushing to court, et cetera, and we want to be clear with Your Honor that we don't view anything that we do before the court lightly. We certainly don't come to you on what we would call false. The debtors bring issues to Your Honor based upon our judgment regarding the needs that are required and when we need your judgment on an issue.

So, fortunately the relief that we're seeking

today is not emergency relief because it was sent out and filed on regular notice. We just wanted you to know from our perspective that we don't take lightly coming to Your Honor for decisions and if we do so on an emergency fashion it's because we believe that that's what's required.

There are two motions that are pending, two pleadings pending before the court. The first is the debtors — it was the debtors underlying emergency motion that was filed the week of March 23rd. You denied that without prejudice, and so we filed a second supplement to seek very narrow relief with respect to one portfolio company. That is Item No. 10 on the agenda.

Item No. 12 on the agenda is Patriarch's motion to amend Your Honor's order of March 30th. And I will defer, obviously, to you and Ms. Loseman, if she's arguing this. It may make sense to start with that motion because it may address some of the issues that we will be discussing in the context of Item No. 10. So, my recommendation would be to, at least, start with that motion and then come back to Item No. 10.

THE COURT: Okay. This is Judge Owens. I was actually thinking the same thing. I would like to take the motion to amend, which after reading the pleadings, appears that the relief sought has been very narrowly focused.

So, Ms. Loseman or counsel for Patriarch, why

don't we address that matter first and I'll allow you to present it in the first instance.

MS. LOSEMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. This is

Monica Loseman on behalf of Ms. Tilton and the Patriarch

stakeholders. That order certainly makes good sense to us.

So, as to the motion to amend, Your Honor, we are before you on what we believe is a fairly simple limited motion to clarify the March 30th order entered by this court. Debtors take the position that the court's entry of its order on March 30th constitutes a finding, an implicit finding, that the rescissions on March 26th are ineffective and that the five companies were without a director or manager through a transition period.

The debtors take this position despite the fact it was debtors that asked for help, seemingly asked for help, complaining that those companies needed transitional leadership and were left without governance until the parties could elect replacements. They take this position despite the fact that Ms. Tilton has continued to provide leadership to those companies, with no compensation, in order to address debtors' concerns that the business, in fact, needed that transitional leadership. She has provided that leadership and the companies have continued to operate in the normal course and continue to prepare for the sales processes consistent with this court's order on the timeline motions.

The debtors, unfortunately, take this position despite the fact that Mr. Katzenstein continues to meet with Ms. Tilton to discuss and work towards a transition and that Mr. Katzenstein receives updates on the company's operations and their activities to prepare for a sales process consistent with the timeline ordered by this court. The debtors' counsel take this position despite the fact that the rescissions were clearly effective only until such time as replacements would be appointed. Ms. Tilton, unfortunately, it seems, can do no right in debtors' view.

So, why is there a need for clarity that this court did not implicitly rule on the effectiveness of the rescissions. Let's the series of events in the transfer of leadership at Portfolio Company 2 as an example.

As Mr. Nestor noted, the company held a special meeting where the debtors' director was elected just yesterday. The company had actually noticed an annual meeting of shareholders for May 15th at which time the director would be elected. The debtors, however, wanted a meeting sooner and they sent a notice of special meeting for April 21st; however, debtors notice and special meeting was sent pursuant to a provision of the bylaws applicable only where there is a director absent.

On behalf of the Ark and any IP entities that hold approximately 42 percent of the equity in that company we ask

debtors to simply revise their notice of special meeting and include a reference to a different provision of the bylaws applicable to a replacement of a seated director. The debtors refused. There were actions taken by the company and approved by Ms. Tilton during this transitional period, actions that Ms. Tilton discussed with Mr. Katzenstein and with which he concurred in her role as director during that transition.

Debtors' insistence that this court has ruled on the effectiveness of the rescissions could leave questions as to the validity of those actions. Rather than waste resources, by the way, litigating the issue, Ms. Tilton caused the Patriarch stakeholders that own equity in that company to also request a special meeting for the same date and time for the purpose of electing a replacement director. That is how the special meeting that occurred yesterday came about. And debtors' candidate was elected.

Now we hope for the same relatively smooth transition to a new director or manager of leadership as to the other companies as well. There should be no ambiguity about leadership during the transitional period.

Let me address the procedural issue raised in the briefing briefly. We do not seek to modify or seek any reconsideration of the court's March 30th order. We seek only a clarification that this court did not rule, did not

even receive briefing or hear argument on the effectiveness of the rescission. And the mechanism for clarifying the order is Rule 9023. The standard is not so high, as debtors suggest, for this court merely to clarify its prior order. This court can use Rule 9023 to do so without reaching the standards debtors suggest. And there is clear precedent we have sited including the Nortel case where Judge Gross invoked this very rule to clarify an order.

Now let me address, briefly, debtor's view regarding the motivation for the motion to amend. That conspiracy theory, frankly, is out of left field. Debtors have developed this theory that the purpose, the secret purpose of this very limited motion to amend is to allow Ms. Tilton to replace her personal role with that of an independent person with industry experience all in an effort to somehow delay the sales process. Debtors once again make radical factual allegations without a scintilla of support.

If Ms. Tilton and Mr. Katzenstein were to testify we believe the court would find no support whatsoever for this conspiracy theory. And even setting aside the utter absence of any factual support for that theory the debtors' theory is illogical. If debtors' true concern is adhering to this court's timeline order then granting the motion to amend is actually in debtors' stated interest. It merely maintains a status quo and the companies continue to prepare for the

monetization process consistent with the court's order.

According to debtors read of the settlement agreement Ms. Tilton will continue to be bound by its terms so long as she continues to fulfill the manager/director role at these companies through the transitional period. And setting aside interpretations of the settlement agreement or legal arguments on that point we agree it is preferable that Ms. Tilton remain in these roles during the transition process so that the companies can continue to make progress with the monetization process.

In the short few weeks Ms. Tilton has continued to provide transitional leadership. And as Mr. Katzenstein would have to admit she has moved the companies forward in the marketing process, utterly cognizant of the deadlines imposed by the court. And once new leadership is elected the expectation is that they will simply pick-up that process and continue to move it forward.

Debtors want to create this sense of an emergency in the hopes that doing so will persuade this court to foreclose the Patriarch stakeholders from exercising their equity and lender rights in the portfolio companies. They insist, for example, that the five companies are without governance in order to complain about the absence of leadership, hoping to persuade the court an emergency exists that justifies wholly foreclosing the Patriarch stakeholders

voting rights. I will address that more with respect to the second supplement and in response to debtors opening remarks on that matter, but it's not really relevant to the motion to amend.

Permitting debtors to imply to third-parties that the court implicitly ruled that the rescissions were ineffective only leaves the five or now four companies without leadership through the transition period. What we seek through the motion to amend should be a shared goal of the parties; maintaining a status quo as to governance only until such time as replacements are dually elected for the four remaining companies. That is all we ask of the court; a clarification that the March 30th order did not constitute a ruling on the rescission question.

That question was not at issue at the March 26th argument, it was not briefed, it was not argued and the only reason the rescissions even came about was debtors' complaint that certain companies might be left without transitional leadership. Ms. Tilton answered their concern by, essentially, agreeing to maintain the status quo; continue as director and manager, pushing the monetization process forward only until such time as replacements are dually elected. She has and will continue to do so. We simply ask the court to amend its order to make clear it did not somehow implicitly rule the limited rescissions were ineffective.

Thank you, Your Honor. 1 2 THE COURT: Thank you. 3 Nestor? Mr. 4 MR. NESTOR: Thank you, Your Honor. Can you hear 5 me? 6 THE COURT: I can. 7 MR. NESTOR: Thank you. Your Honor, a couple things at the outset. One, 8 9 the debtors never asked Ms. Tilton to rescind her 10 resignations. Ms. Tilton apparently did not understand the implication of her decision. So, when we filed the 11 supplement with the court we noted that as a basis for the 12 13 debtors needing to take control, not for Ms. Tilton to then rescind her resignation at those companies. 14 They were 15 without leadership because of her unilateral action and the 16 debtors took action immediately to fix that. And it's 17 uncontroverted in the record, Judge. 18 The Monday after Ms. Tilton gave her notice the debtors sent a consent that said please provide us with the 19 20 control, the leadership, and the stability that you committed 21 to give us under your letter. She said no. So, we were left 22 with no alternative but to file the motion. 23 With respect to the compensation issue, Judge, Ms. Tilton does get \$100,000 dollars a month and each of these 24 25 portfolio companies is either paid or accrued, but the

services being provided aren't free. And despite counsel's attempts to testify from the phone regarding facts that aren't relevant to this proceeding the debtors took action, Judge, consistent with the letter that was filed, and we'll get to that, that she sent to the debtors on March 21st and was filed with the court.

The order that was entered, Judge, was the result of a hearing that was conducted before Your Honor. We had a hearing on March 26th and Your Honor instructed the parties to submit Ms. Tilton's order and to add a provision that required her reasonable and good faith in terms of delivering ownership and control of the portfolios to the debtors consistent with the representations in her letter.

Now, with respect to the relief that's requested,

Judge, this very easily have been disposed of on or before

March 30th. We sent the order. We had a dispute with

Patriarch regarding the order. And this is something that

likely and should have been done then because the same issues

were at play at that time.

From our perspective, Judge, the resignations with respect to these five companies, now four companies, was effective immediately pursuant to Ms. Tilton's own letter and her own letters referenced to applicable law and the applicable agreements. Once she resigned she lacked the ability to rescind and Patriarch sites no case in support of

that proposition. There is nothing in the agreements which 1 2 were filed with the court and there's nothing under applicable law that supports that position. In short, Your 3 Honor, there's (indiscernible). You don't get to resign, 4 5 send everyone notice of your resignation, make clear that it's automatic upon receipt and then change your mind five 6 days later.

THE COURT: Well, listen, Mr. Nestor, I know that that is your argument on the substantive issue. Presumably, you know, we're going to get to it, depending on how I rule on this motion, of course, we're going to get to it in the next motion.

MR. NESTOR: Yes.

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THE COURT: With respect to the motion to amend, I mean, to you agree that I did not make a decision with respect to the rescissions on March 30th?

MR. NESTOR: Well, Your Honor --

THE COURT: I mean, let's just save one issue out of time. I'm not saying I made a decision. I'm just saying do you agree that we didn't discuss or it or I didn't make a ruling and there needs to be some sort of ruling or do you disagree because that is really the focused issue that we're talking about momentarily in the motion to amend.

MR. NESTOR: Correct, Your Honor. So, a couple of things.

So, the motion that was filed by Patriarch started off under 59(e) and then they flipped to 60(b) in their reply. And I think we have to -- so, one, all of these facts were in the record on March 26th. Ms. Tilton filed a pleading with the court stating that she rescinded her resignation with respect to these five companies prior to the hearing. I think it was an hour before the hearing, and it was addressed at the hearing on the call with Your Honor.

So, everything that we're talking about now, all of these facts were in the record, both the docket and the transcript, at the hearing that was conducted by Your Honor on March 26th. And at the conclusion of that hearing we did exactly what you asked us to do. You said take Ms. Tilton's order and add this paragraph. That is what we did.

Our position was, in fact, that she had resigned and that she's incapable of un-resigning under the applicable documents. We both, respectively, briefed this issue. It's before you today. We think you can decide that on the merits, but our position is under Rule 59(e) they haven't made their case. What they do is they site the rule and site some facts, but they never connect the dots on tying the facts to the rule. And what it requires, what cases have said is you need an intervening change of law, we don't have that. We have availability of new evidence, we don't have that. And we have the need to correct clear error of law or

manifest injustice. The debtors don't have that, it hasn't been alleged.

with respect to Rule 60(b) same sort of issues except, you know, most of them don't apply. Mistaken inadvertence, or excusable neglect, first, second, newly discovered evidence, third fraud, fourth is the judgment void, fifth has the judgment been satisfied, and sixth any other reason that justifies the relief. I assume that is what they are relying on, but it is unclear from their papers.

From the debtors' perspective we were at the hearing on the 26th. They actually filed a pleading noting that Ms. Tilton had rescinded her resignations. We had the hearing and Your Honor instructed us to file an order, you know, that we filed ultimately and that Your Honor, ultimately, entered. So, we would suggest that, in fact, the order did address this issue, the effectiveness of the resignations, that was the heart of the ruling which was important from the debtors' perspective.

And we don't think -- we think either you did so understanding the issues that were being discussed or that it should not be an issue as a matter of law because Ms. Tilton is incapable under the applicable documents of rescinding her resignation and reinserting herself back after she has resigned effective immediately upon delivery.

THE COURT: Okay. Well, listen, I'm just going to cut right to the issues. I don't want to waste time on this. The motion to amend is very narrow. I am prepared to make the clarification.

I think that my order was very clear and that there was no ruling on the rescissions. I did not make any such ruling on the record or in the order. And I did not intend to do so. So, I am prepared to make that clarification. But to be clear I made no determination as to the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of Ms. Tilton's letters rescinding her resignation.

So, that is an open issue. And you teed up one motion to address it at Company One. That is the next matter. So, let's just go ahead and deal with it now.

MR. NESTOR: Thank you, Your Honor. I appreciate that.

So, Your Honor, we're at Item Number 10 on the agenda, the debtor's motion through a second supplement to insert itself and have you compel Ms. Tilton to insert herself -- to insert the debtors as the managing member of Portfolio Company No. 1.

Your Honor, we've been through this before, Ms.

Tilton's resignation on March 21st was the day after you

ruled on the monetization procedures and guidelines. And she

purports to say that that had nothing to do with it. At that

time she resigned from all positions at all of the Group A and Group B portfolio companies. And we will get to those statements in that letter shortly.

It's important to note, Your Honor, that this was done without any notice to anyone including Your Honor. If we turn back to -- again, this is the, you know, sworn testimony of Ms. Tilton in connection with that trial. She testified over two days and never indicated to anyone that she intended to resign. In fact, it was the opposite, Your Honor.

I would like to talk about a few of these statements. Page 91, Lines 15 through 20 she states that,

"In the end it's important to me to maximize value for all constituencies to find the right buyer that will take care of my people and the customers and vendors, and all the people that we have built relationships with, and to make certain that that process is successful."

Page 150, Lines 23 through Page 151, Line 4,

"I expect that I will be deeply involved with the

management meetings of potential buyers since I'm the only

one with the history and much of the management is new trying

to maximize value for this company."

Page 208, Lines 20 to 23,

"My intention is to do everything possible to market this company properly, and maximize value and get a

robust price that I can sell at."

Page 211, Lines 6 through 20,

"It's important to me to be deeply involved in the process and the managment meetings, I mean this company.

Everybody will be new and just hired. So, I will be the only one who can sit in management meetings with the history of operations to market the company."

Last, Your Honor, Page 339, Lines 4 through 6, "But I will work, as I have since the start of this process, tirelessly and with my full attention."

So, Judge, she resigned without any notice contrary to her statements before Your Honor, sworn testimony, a month before. On March 23rd the debtors immediately sent Ms. Tilton, and, again, uncontroverted in the record, a consent that would have fulfilled her commitments under her resignation letter and delivered ownership, control and leadership to the debtors. It was rejected that day and we were forced to file the motion with Your Honor.

Having resigned, effectively, as of March 21st Ms. Tilton then, on the 26th, the day of the hearing, purported to rescind it apparently after reading the debtors' pleading and then understanding the ramifications of her decision, but she only did that with respect to the five companies where she has an economic interest in the form of debt and/or

equity.

So, Your Honor, we had the hearing on the 26th. You granted in part and denied in part the relief that was requested by the debtors, but it's important to look at exactly what you said. You said,

"I do feel it appropriate to add a provision to

Ms. Tilton's proposed order that requires Ms. Tilton and the

other Patriarch stakeholders shall work reasonably and in

good faith with the debtors to transition ownership and

control of the portfolio companies as set forth in the

resignation letter."

Then, you noted further that,

"I do believe her representations are genuine and I will give her the chance to accomplish and live up to that statement."

THE COURT: Mr. Nestor, I'm going to interrupt you because I know what I said. Everybody, both sides, loves to quote me, loves to fill their motions with things that I said. I know what I said, I remember what I said. What's important is that at the time that we had that hearing there was -- Patriarch made it clear or Ms. Tilton's counsel made it clear that she was not transferring ownership or control rights that she had due to her personal investments. So, that is really the issue here, at least I think that the issue here.

So, why don't we talk about that? Why in some way is that not the correct framing of this issue and why aren't we focusing on that?

MR. NESTOR: Thank you, Your Honor. I will focus on that. I appreciate that.

So, in that regard, Your Honor, so let's then look at what Ms. Tilton said to us, to you and to all the portfolio companies.

Her resignation letter is not -- well, first of all, our position is that at this portfolio company, and this issue is teed up in the context of this motion, that Ms.

Tilton has, in fact, resigned at this company and her position has not been filled. If you look at she tendered her resignation to the debtors, to the company and it set forth that it was effective immediately upon receipt.

If you look at Section 5.9 of the LLC agreement it states resignation by the manager will take effect at the time specified in the resignation or if no time specified at the time of its receipt by any common member. So, the debtors received that on March 21st. We believe it was effective as of the 21st. And the documents speak to absent an order of this court how that spot gets filled.

It's important, Judge, this wasn't just a resignation letter, a one liner that says I resign and move on. The letter went into extreme detail in terms of her

commitments, the basis, the clarity and the implications of 1 2 her resignation. She stated, "I know that I can no longer effectively lead the 3 4 companies forward into the future." 5 She stated, "As the Zohar's control the future of these 6 7 companies I feel I can no longer continue my roles." She stated again that it was effective immediately 8 9 and under the express terms of the LLC agreements and the 10 shareholders agreements, "Such resignation is deemed accepted upon 11 12 receipt." 13 She stated that she believed her resignations are in the best interest of all constituencies. 14 15 She stated that, "It's only more important to the portfolio 16 17 companies are not caught in the middle of constituency 18 conflict." She stated that the portfolio companies will need, 19 20 "Unilateral support, relief, capital and attention 21 presumably from the debtors." 22 And in closing she said, 23 "I will, of course, reasonably cooperate with your new leadership to accomplish this transition." 24 25 So, Judge, from the debtors' perspective Ms.

Tilton promised -- she resigned effective immediately, vacating all those positions at dozens of portfolio companies. At this company in particular, the one we're talking about today, she is incapable of rescinding it.

Under applicable law Patriarch provides no support for the ability to rescind that resignation. It's effective upon receipt and its effective consistent with the applicable LLC agreement.

The debtors, in response, offered themselves as the Zohar III Corp, as proposed managing member, Judge. A debtor in these cases who is subject to the oversight and jurisdiction of this court. Ms. Tilton has objected to that stating that she is still the manager. She stated that you need industry experience and that she needs an additional four to six weeks, not from the date of resignation, from the filing of her pleading, to find an acceptable candidate, imposing necessarily a month long delay into this process.

THE COURT: Well, let me interrupt you because I want to be clear. I want to make sure that I understand. My understanding is, and please correct me if I'm wrong, Mr.

Nestor, and Ms. Loseman can chime in when it's here time, but she -- I believe that the papers reveal that she objected to the appointment of Zohar III not because she is the manager, but because she holds common shares, through an affiliate, and she has the right to consent under the LLC agreements.

MR. NESTOR: It's both, Your Honor.

THE COURT: So, even if the manager is empty she still has the ability as a common member to vote on the replacement. Is that my understanding wrong?

MR. NESTOR: Can you hear me, Your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. NESTOR: I think she has taken both positions that she is the manager and there is no need to replace her, and that she has the right -- you know, essentially, you need unanimity to elect it and she doesn't consent.

THE COURT: Okay. Let's focus on the unanimous vote. I understand your position with respect to whether Ms. Tilton, effectively, reinstated herself as manager. I certainly understand that, but let's put that aside. Explain a little bit more into your position as to why the parties do not need to have unanimous consent.

MR. NESTOR: Well, I mean the fact of the matter is, Judge, we don't -- the argument is that it requires unanimous consent and that requires unanimity which requires all common holders to consent. And Ms. Tilton does not consent to the debtor's representatives. So, at this point we don't have -- we're in a deadlock in terms of next steps. In connection with -- by the way, we just keep coming back to either her letter that was tendered to the debtors and given to the court has some meaning or it doesn't.

From the debtors' perspective what Ms. Tilton has done is pulled the carpet out from everybody, resigned at all these companies, and now purported to rescind which we think, as I said and its set forth in our papers, is incapable of being done under the underlying LLC agreements and applicable law.

From the debtors' perspective her decision and the refusal of the Ark entities to consent to the debtors in these cases, whose job is to sell and realize value for their assets, directly impacts the settlement agreement which requires a joint process. There is no joint process in connection with Ms. Tilton's resignation at all of these portfolio companies. It actually directly impacts that process.

Second, the monetization procedures order which, again, requires a joint process and court imposed deadlines to get things done specific to this company. Finally, Judge, the transition order which deals with the transition of ownership and control to the debtors consistent with the resignation letter that she filed.

So, from the debtors' perspective, Judge, you have jurisdiction over Ms. Tilton and the Ark entities. They are Patriarch stakeholders under the settlement agreement. We went -- you decided that on February 6th. You have authority to enforce your orders. We are now one month removed from

Ms. Tilton's resignation, two months removed from the trial that we had with you in February and Ms. Tilton is telling you she needs a couple of more months to make a decision, just to make a recommendation with respect to a manager.

The debtors respectfully request that you exercise jurisdiction over Ms. Tilton and the Ark entities, that you have the authority to do that under three orders of this court regarding the settlement agreement, the monetization procedures order and the transition order. The debtors are prepared to lead the process with respect to this company, but you required, and there is no contest with respect to Paragraph 6 of the transition order that you entered on the 30th, you required Ms. Tilton to act in good faith and reasonableness in connection with the transition of ownership and control.

What we have, Your Honor, is we're a month removed from this process. The debtors immediately made recommendations with respect to the portfolio companies. She immediately -- they did it on March 23rd before they filed their motion, they did it on March 31st the day after you ruled. And Ms. Tilton was a month removed from the hearing and from Ms. Tilton's resignation. And we still don't even have a candidate, Judge. And we have no commitment to get one in the short term.

We think that Paragraph 6 drives Your Honor's

have meaning.

ruling. We think that you have jurisdiction, as I said, with respect to these entities. They're all controlled by Ms.

Tilton anyway, but the good news is they're covered as Patriarch stakeholders in the settlement agreement. The orders that you enter have to have integrity and they have to

From the debtors' perspective you have the right, you have the authority and you have the basis to, one, determine that Ms. Tilton has, in fact, resigned this company and not reinserted herself or, you know, taken back her resignation, but more importantly, Judge, that the debtors are the right party to lead the process forward with that company when the clock is ticking on the timeline that you set in the monetization procedures order.

I have nothing further, Your Honor, unless you want to beat me up some more.

THE COURT: I just struggle because you filed your adversary proceeding seeking, in part, exactly the relief that you obtained through the resignation letters as we sit here today. So, what did you expect was going to happen if you obtain that relief in connection with the joint monetization process --

MR. NESTOR: Your Honor --

THE COURT: -- because I'm struggling -- let me back up, I want to continue my thought which is because I'm

struggling with the idea that this relief is necessary to enforce my order when I have not concluded that Ms. Tilton has resigned solely to thwart my orders unless I should hold her in contempt or should enforce the terms of those orders.

And you provided me no other clarity under Delaware state law as to why I can force or somehow resolve this deadlock.

I will be honest with you because there was law sited I did the dangerous thing and went on Westlaw and I found that this is not necessarily the remedy the Delaware Courts impose when there is a deadlock, okay, because judicial dissolution is the remedy.

MR. NESTOR: Either that or -- there are other remedies as well, Judge, but from the -- again, this is a court of equity and we are operating under orders of this court. At this point I'm not sure we care why it happened. It doesn't have -- there are facts in the record, uncontroverted, that we think drive the result we're seeking.

One, Ms. Tilton resigns at all companies. Made the representation to us, to you and to the portfolio companies that she was resigning at all of these portfolio companies.

Second, there is a vacancy here at this company.

And there is a deadline that's been prescribed by Your Honor in connection with a process, again, the record is clear, that has been going on for more than a year, but there is a

deadline that has to be achieved with respect to that portfolio company.

Third, the debtor -- this is a debtor in a Chapter 11 case pending before the court who recommend itself, its professionals, its principals, as the parties to lead that process. Over the next couple of months there's not much time left.

I understand where you are coming from, Judge.

And I would say that if Ms. Tilton is willing to stipulate to judgment on all of the relief set forth in the complaint that we filed that would resolve, actually, some of the issues with the other portfolio companies because she purported to give herself, you know, the sole exclusive right. She contracted with herself to give her those remedies.

So, if she is prepared to consent to all of the relief we've sought in that adversary proceeding we're happy to document that, but with respect to this company, Judge, from the debtors' perspective we have a settlement agreement which requires a joint process. She acted unilaterally to -- again, I'm not saying that was the intent, but it effectively kept significant doubt and delay over that process. The same goes for the monetization procedures order. It reaffirmed the joint process and set deadlines. The unilateral, without notice, resignation necessarily imposes uncertainty and delay in connection with that process.

Third, the transition order. I guess the question is you ordered Ms. Tilton to work reasonably and in good faith to transition ownership and control of the portfolio companies to the Zohar's. In this case the Zohar's have suggested themselves as the party who will take ownership, leadership, control and responsibility for this entity. And Ms. Tilton, without detailing why that is not a proffer has objected. She hasn't come forward in the last 30 days with a replacement candidate for this company. Instead, she told you, us and everyone else that she needs another four to six weeks from last week to be able to make that decision.

So, from the debtors' perspective we don't believe that the negotiation on this company is in good faith. We don't believe that it's reasonable and we think that you have the authority, you have the jurisdiction to enter an order directing her to do this, just as you would if you were directing a sale of the portfolio company. It's the same issues we dealt with on February 6th. If Ms. Tilton was not doing something that you thought needed to be done you said you have the authority over her objection to take action to make her do the right thing.

In this case, Judge, with respect to this company we're going to be caught in limbo for an indefinite period of time and we're going to be having this same argument two months from now.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

MR. SHORE: Your Honor, this is Chris Shore. May

I be heard very briefly on behalf of Mr. Farnan?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. SHORE: For the past, I'd say, nine months now the court has been moving on a very deliberate series of steps to get a solution to the problem we had last August which is companies that were -- debtors in bankruptcy whose interests in companies were not getting better with age and no visible path to getting to closure.

The debtors invested a great deal of money in litigation and the court invested a great deal of time in coming up with a solution. The solution was to use the settlement agreement to obtain jurisdiction over Ms. Tilton and the portfolio companies that would extend until all the assets are sold or the parties were paid in full and the court found, in a contested hearing, that it had jurisdiction over Ms. Tilton and the Patriarch parties to compel the sale of the portfolio companies including the portfolio companies in which the Patriarch entities, like Ark, held a minority in stockholding interest. That is the whole company could be sold and we then had a discussion about how we might have to drag in third-parties through the drag provisions in the shareholders agreement so that we could get to a sale.

I'm not going to repeat the argument. Once

resigned a director or officer can't reappointment
themselves, it has to be done through valid corporate action.
The question here, with respect to this portfolio company, is
what do we do about a new manager. As it is right now the
status quo is that the court has been divested of
jurisdiction to compel anybody to sell this portfolio
company. That is if the court is going to conclude that it
does not have jurisdiction to compel the minority shareholder
here to elect a director.

It will be a, from Mr. Farnan's perspective, giant loophole in the monetization order and the process that led up to it. That is on the day before she resigned the court could compel, as Mr. Nestor said, the actual sale of those interests. And to that would be could compel the minority shareholder to take the actions necessary to cause the sale if it required a shareholder consent, it required a shareholder meeting. None of that could be done.

Its Mr. Farnan's perspective that both he and Ms. Tilton are personally obligated under that monetization order to take certain actions and proceed in a certain way. It's Mr. Farnan's position that Ms. Tilton did not remove herself from the jurisdiction of the court to compel moving forward with the monetization process. While we accept that commitments have been made about when things are going to get done it needs to be very clear that as part of the

monetization process, if Ms. Tilton is going to resign, she needs to get a replacement manager in there. It cannot be a veto by delay and it cannot be an unreasonable veto because the monetization or the transition order requires good faith cooperation.

As it stands right now Ms. Tilton, in her papers, has not articulated any reason why Z-III can't be the replacement manager here. And just as if the court could compel the Ark entities to vote their shares in favor of a transaction the court has the power, under the existing monetization order to compel or to put a manager in place who can effectuate the monetization process or, as I said, this just ended up being a unfortunate waste of the debtors' scarce resources and the court's scarce resources in working up to this. I do not believe that the court built into its order that kind of loophole, but if it is we're going to have to do something to fix it because we are, from Mr. Farnan's perspective, dead in the water on the monetization unless and until we get a manager in there.

THE COURT: Well, Mr. Shore, I certainly everyone's frustration and I certainly understand the concerns you have just articulated about the inability of the parties to move forward with respect to the monetization of this specific portfolio company and perhaps others.

And assuming I have jurisdiction, I guess the

question that I have and that I did not articulate properly is what is the standard by which I compel Ark to execute the written consent, given that the LLC agreement requires unanimous consent under Delaware State law? Because there was no case law cited to me in any of the briefing as to the standard and Mr. Nestor highlighted that there could be other remedies under Delaware State law, rather than general dissolution, but no one cited the standard.

This is a similar are issue that I asked the parties when we were going to compel the sell because there were two sort of hoops there we had to jump through -- jurisdiction, but then in addition, what would be the standard by which, We, we compel a sale, and of course we never got there.

So, what is the standard by which I would compel Ark to execute the written consent?

MR. SHORE: Well, I think there are a couple of standards that are out there. The first thing that has to be found, I think, in the emanation of the Court's jurisdiction comes from the fact that the monetization order personally required Ms. Tilton to take certain actions. That she is incapable of taking them and she's incapable of taking them because she made herself incapable of taking them.

Not a question of knowing or willful. Knowing or willful goes to the extent of the remedy, but Ms. Tilton has

placed herself in contempt of the order and the Supreme Court has clarified, it doesn't need -- you don't need to have a subjective belief that you're violating the order. She has made herself incapable of carrying out the monetization processes because in order to do that, she needs to be a manager.

So, that gives the Court wide range in jurisdiction to fashion a remedy and it is up to the Court's equitable jurisdiction to do that. And in this instance, the fix for Ms. Tilton removing herself from the managerial position to carrying out the monetization order, which is not permitted in the monetization order, and I can assure you that if Mr. Farnan were to resign, he would come to the Court before doing so and ask to modify the monetization order and address this ahead of time, rather than taking a precipitous action the day after the Court entered the order.

But that gives the jurisdiction to the Court to fix it. If Ms. Tilton wants to remain in contempt by failing to executed Ark consent, then the Court has a number of other remedies on which it can rely to compel that action. But as it stands right now, we're not talking about the economics of her interest, the economics of her interest or Ark's interest in the entity are going to be protected by the manager put in place, who will be charged with getting the right price under the circumstances.

What we're talking about the is governance piece;
the piece which is, there needs to be somebody in place and
the shareholders have the right to pick that person.

All you would be doing by ordering -
THE COURT: So, my question -
MR. SHORE: -- by ordering Ark to or Ms. Tilton to
execute the Ark consent would be, quote, depriving her of the
opportunity to pick her manager of choice.

And as I started, and I'll finish here -
THE COURT: (Indiscernible) interrupt you.

MR. SHORE: Sure.

THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

I'm sorry. No, complete your thought.

MR. SHORE: Where I started was, if there was some articulation from Ms. Tilton as to why Z-III was not an appropriate manager to carry out the acts that are required under the order, which is putting that portfolio company up for sale and closing the sale, that might be a basis for saying the remedy that you would require me to execute this consent would be inappropriate or unfair or unjust or inequitable. But the only argument that we've received to date as to why Z-III is not appropriate is that Z-III can't run the business of this portfolio company over time, but that's not an appropriate purpose.

So, the interest that is trying to be protected

here is not a legitimate one, such that it is within the Court's equitable power to get Ms. Tilton to sign the Ark consent.

THE COURT: And under Delaware State law, the Delaware Courts justify their decision to break a deadlock in favor of one party over the other under that standard.

MR. SHORE: Right. But the issue --

THE COURT: What is the standard by which the Delaware Courts breaks the deadlock?

MR. SHORE: I don't know the answer to that. I would did he have to my Delaware corporate brethren.

But my issue or my point is that the Court has the point to enforce its orders. If the Court ordered somebody to deliver or to sell the company and Ms. Tilton didn't sell the company, right, this violation of the order once entered, then it's not a point to say you can't do that under State law. Your time to raise that issue was before the order was entered.

This order was entered requiring her to take certain actions. She has taken herself out of the box on it, right; she's made herself incapable of carrying out Your Honor's order. So, Your Honor is authorized to enter an order which requires Ms. Tilton not to benefit -- and that's what we're really talking about here -- benefit from the fact that she is in violation of Your Honor's order.

Ittle bit because even assuming that the replacement manager, let's just assume for purposes of this discussion, that the replacement manager of company one is someone who does not want to sell the companies don't I have the authority over Zohar III and Ark II under the settlement agreement to force you to comply with my joint monetization order?

In other words, don't I have jurisdiction over Ms. Tilton and Ark, based on their agreements or based on their holding of the equity?

MR. SHORE: Okay. So, one way this could play out and it would be a very difficult way, right, is the monetization -- a new manager comes, in carrying out your example, who doesn't want to sell. Ms. Tilton shops the items for a director who has never sold the company and decides that's who I want. And we go forward in the process and offers come in and Mr. Farnan says, Yes, and replacement manager says, No.

We could then go through a process of dragging Ark in to have Ark and Zohar III issue proxy statements at that point, right, either removing that manager or a shareholder consent, which overrides that manager's decision to sell.

And that would work and that would be messy and it would take a lot of time and probably can't be done within the time

frames that we were talking about now months ago, which is holding an APA open while that happens. That's probably not workable.

But more difficult to deal with in the process is, what are we doing while that manager is in place who is dealing with the portfolio companies, dealing with the investment bankers, holding these meetings, are we now modifying? I guess we modify the order, the monetization order to make that person have to attend the status conferences and make periodic things and we make those issues, right?

But all during that time, the Court has no jurisdiction over that manager. The jurisdiction, which the Court -- going back to the beginning -- started with, was the jurisdiction under the settlement agreement. That's how we got to the monetization order. A manager who comes in, the Court -- I don't know, maybe, but it would have to be clear at the outset -- but I don't know how the Court writes an order that says, Manager, you didn't show up at the status conference. You've got to show up at the status conference. Manager, you didn't deal with the investment banks and that you've got to deal with the investment banks.

What the debtors are trying to do here is address that issue up front and, again, the problem that's been created is of Ms. Tilton's making. She is the one who

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stepped out and under the appropriate State Court law or
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    State law is required to have the shareholders' meeting and
    the directors of all the shareholders reappointing herself
 3
    before she gets re-appointed. So, we're not doing any of
 4
 5
    that.
               So, I guess the looking four or five steps down
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 7
    the line, it's critical to let's just get Ms. Tilton out,
    let's get new people in, and the Court, I would just say, the
 9
    Court has the jurisdiction to protect its jurisdiction. It
10
    has jurisdiction to enforce a process and that jurisdiction
11
    is being subverted by the resignations.
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               THE COURT:
                          Okay. Thank you very much.
13
    appreciate the clarification of your point.
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               MR. SHORE: Thank you, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT:
                           Thank you.
               Okay. Why don't I hear from the Patriarch
16
   parties.
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               MS. LOSEMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. For the
    record, it's Ms. Loseman again.
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               Frankly, Your Honor, we're confounded.
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    Ms. Tilton gave the debtors what we thought they wanted: a
22
    concession that the Zohars own the equity recorded in their
23
   name and whatever rights come with that equity. And she can
    still do no right.
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If anything, Ms. Tilton is going out of her way to

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cooperate in the transition out of respect for the Court's orders here. There's no record whatsoever that she's obstructing the sales process or even operation of the company and that's because she is not and the debtors' business professionals know it. She was performing as manager of portfolio company one and that performance was apparently unobjectionable up to the date of her resignation.

And now she's doing the same thing since her resignation was rescinded, performing as manager. But now, suddenly, that's objectionable.

Where is the violation of any order?

There is no violation. There is no support for any suggestion that Ms. Tilton has violated any of this Court's orders.

This isn't, in fact, about Ms. Tilton as continuing to perform as manager through a transition period. This isn't even about obstructing a sale. The Zohars and the Patriarch stakeholders' financial interests in this company are aligned: find a sale at the highest value possible so that everyone can collect on their interests in the company. This, instead, is about invalidating the Patriarch stakeholders' equity interests in voting in a new replacement manager.

Let me just address, briefly, the rescission point. We believe that the rescission is effective. The

rescission was delivered to the company, itself. That rescission was acknowledged and accepted by the chief executive officer. The company, Ms. Tilton, Mr. Katzenstein, all have continued to operate consistent with the effectiveness of the rescission and relied on the company's acceptance of that rescission. We think it's a mixed question of law and fact, but we believe that there's ample support for a ruling that the rescission was effective.

But let me get right to the heart of it. I think

Your Honor is correct, the debtors are conflating the

rescission issue and the voting rights issue. Ms. Tilton did

not object to Zohar III in her role as transitional manager

at the company. She objected as an equity earner.

Counsel, I think, at the beginning of this argument said it pretty clearly: The basis for debtors' complaint on March 26th, which Ms. Tilton took it as an expression, a genuine expression of concern for the companies and a need for leadership through a transitional period. In fact, Ms. Tilton, (indiscernible) her read of that -- of debtors' complaint on March 26th was perhaps wrong because debtors' could believe made it pretty clear, that complaint was not an invitation for Ms. Tilton to help; instead, that was a complaint that there was a need, there was some justification for the debtors to take control of the company without giving any effect to the minority equity interests.

Whether Ms. Tilton remains as manager or not during its transition period, the voting rights in portfolio company one and the applicability of the relevant provisions in the LLC agreement are what they are, regardless of whether Ms. Tilton remains the company's manager or not through transition, a vote needs to take place, consistent with the terms of the LLC agreement to elect a new manager. And let me be clear, Ms. Tilton wants a new manager. She is not seeking to elect herself to the position permanently.

Debtors, here, make no mistake about it, ask for extraordinary relief. They asked this Court to render invalid the voting rights associated with Ms. Tilton's approximately 17 percent equity interests in portfolio company one so that they may unilaterally appoint Zohar III as the manager. They asked this Court to ignore the governing LLC agreement. They asked this Court to ignore applicable Delaware State law and consequently ignore the Patriarch stakeholders' rights.

And it's not as if Ms. Tilton asks much here. She merely asks that the debtors propose an independent candidate, ideally with industry experience and that she would do the same. She's in that process. There's a lot, of course, going on in the world right now. She is working to identify appropriate candidates as quickly as she possibly can, but she also asked and expected the debtors would do the

same in the hopes that they could continue working together and negotiating to find an appropriate replacement manager.

The debtors haven't even done that. Instead, they came immediately to the Court asking it to ignore the LLC agreement, ignore Delaware law, ignore Chancery Court authority, and simply appoint Zohar III as the manager, claiming that Ms. Tilton agreed to abdicate her rights by writing very generally in her resignation letter that she would cooperate in the transition process. The debtors' arguments are without any legal justification or factual support.

Let me address, first, the other absence of any legal justification for the extraordinary relief debtors request. The debtors who pointed to no legal justification for what they ask this Court to do and that's because there is none. We certainly have not seen it and the Court has noted there are remedies under State law if, in fact, the equity holders have reached a deadlock, but those remedies do not include this Court invalidating the Patriarch stakeholders' right to participate in the election of a new manager under the terms of a new LLC agreement.

They do not point to any provision in the settlement agreement where Ms. Tilton abdicated the Patriarch stakeholders' rights as equity owners and lenders to the portfolio companies and they do not cite any such provision

because it does not exist. Ms. Tilton never agreed to give up the Patriarch stakeholders' equity and best interests in the companies.

And the Court's order implementing the settlement agreement did not, of course, purport to resolve ownership or control over the portfolio companies; in fact, it purposely avoided that question and preserved the then, status quo. It was only Ms. Tilton's resignation and agreement that the Zohars owned the equity recorded in their name and whatever rights go with that, that led us here.

The order implementing the settlement agreement did not require Ms. Tilton to forego her personal voting interest. She is not, for example, blocking a sale of the company. There is nothing in the orders to support Mr. Shore's newly articulated theory of this Court's authority for imposing the radical relief they request here.

The selection of an independent manager does not impact the monetization of this company and there's no record upon which the Court could find anything remotely approaching supposed contempt of any order whatsoever. Not agreeing to allow Zohar III to ride roughshod over the Patriarch stakeholders' interests is not contempt. This Court's equitable jurisdiction simply does not reach so far, particularly where there's no factual record to suggest any of this is impacting the sale process in any way whatsoever.

They do not, of course, point to Delaware law for legal support, nor could they, for the reasons I noted and they can't point to any statement in her resignation letter where she agreed to abdicate her rights. Again, that is because it simply does not exist.

Ms. Tilton only gave control over that which the Zohars now own, the equity recorded in the Zohar's name.

Ms. Tilton did not express any intent to abdicate the Patriarch stakeholders' equity and debt interests in her resignation letter; instead, the debtors in their papers point to a general remark in the resignation letter that the Zohars control the future of the portfolio companies and that she would reasonably cooperate with new leadership, your new leadership to accomplish the transition.

The debtors are stretching this language beyond all sense and reason. With regard to the vast majority of the portfolio companies, for example, where debtors now own 100 percent of the equity, because 100 percent of the equity is recorded in the Zohar's name or where they own majority rights, given the Zohar equity, with simple majority voting provisions, the future of the companies, most of the companies are now in the Zohars' hands and, indeed,

Ms. Tilton has cooperated with the debtors to accomplish a smooth transition, including, even with respect to the largest portfolio company. But those general remarks in her

resignation letter cannot be converted into an abdication of the Patriarch stakeholders' rights. There's simply no legal support for such an argument.

Now, let me address the purported factual justification. Debtors suggest an emergency exists and I quote from the second supplement:

"Portfolio company one and its officers are without direction and unable to enact the mandate under the final monetization order to effectively proceed with the ongoing sale process, despite active and ongoing bidder discussions, so that the company has been left rudderless when informed, decisive actions important or that absent a manager, portfolio company one has somehow been hampered in executing the Court's final monetization order."

These are quite the statements to be made without any every other support whatsoever. Debtors submitted no declarations, nothing from Mr. Katzenstein or even the company's management team in support of those statements; in fact, Ms. Tilton has testified to the contrary, that since her limited rescission, it has been business as usual or as usual can be under the circumstances of the COVID-19 crisis, and that that company is not left rudderless. It is actively and successfully negotiating a difficult period.

Once more there, is no sales -- no yields to be done right now. While we believe prior bidders remain

interested, there are unfortunately no active or ongoing bidder discussions, no LOI has been submitted, and it is unlikely one is immediately forthcoming, given the circumstances of the broader economic environment. that's not because of the absence of an independent manager to replace Ms. Tilton. We believe Mr. Katzenstein, if permitted to be cross-examined, would have to agree with these points. That's why we believe that the relief requested by debtors' second supplement cannot be ordered without an opportunity to present this testimony and cross-examine Mr. Katzenstein.

So, what is this issue really about? What is the second supplement really about in the fight over Zohar III as the manager?

The debtors want their nominee Zohar III and they refuse to negotiate. They infer, without evidence, that Ms. Tilton is holding out a vote in favor of Zohar III as manager in order to somehow obstruct the process, that she has no legitimate interest in voting her shares in favor of an independent manager; again, quite the claim to be made with no evidentiary support whatsoever.

But let's be clear, the Patriarch stakeholders have debt and equity interests in portfolio company one.

Upon the consummation of a sales transaction, Ms. Tilton expects those stakeholders to be retained and receive what

other interests they are due. She is concerned that Zohar 1 2 III's manager will obstruct payments rightfully due to the Patriarch stakeholders and she has a right to be concerned. 3 4 The ABL lender at the portfolio company, Bardin Hill, is also the controlling noteholder in Zohar III. They 5 6 have taken steps with respect to the ABL to shut out the Patriarch stakeholders from collecting --7 MR. NESTOR: Your Honor, objection. This is 8 9 testimony. This is testimony. This is not -- this is a non-10 evidentiary hearing. There's no evidence of this. 11 MS. LOSEMAN: Your Honor, if I may? 12 THE COURT: Yes. MS. LOSEMAN: This is a proffer of what the 13 evidence would show were we permitted to call Ms. Tilton on 14 the stand and permitted to cross-examine Mr. Katzenstein. 15 THE COURT: I understand, but this is not an 16 17 evidentiary and to the extent that I feel like I can't make a 18 decision at the end of this, then I will allow an evidentiary hearing to go forward. So, I understand your position that 19 20 evidence is necessary, but I don't think we need to go any further. 21 22 MS. LOSEMAN: All right. Suffice it to say, Ms. 23 Tilton has a right to be concerned as Zohar III as a manager 24 of the company. Her withholding of the Patriarch

stakeholders' consent to Zohar III as a manager of the

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company is not without foundation or without basis, which we would present if we were permitted an opportunity to do so.

In light of this backdrop, Ms. Tilton feels it's prudent that an independent manager be appointed and she, therefore, exercised her voting rights, consistent with that belief. Instead of even attempting to engage with Ms. Tilton and identify an independent candidate, the debtors just run to court; this should not be the countenance.

Now, I hope that the equity holders in the portfolio company are not deadlocked. If they are, there are applicable State law remedies and the parties will seek what remedies they feel we need to seek. But there is no factual support, there's not even logical support for the outlandish conspiracy theory now concocted by debtors that Ms. Tilton somehow seeks to install an independent manager for the purpose of avoiding the Court's timeline order and deadline to sell the company; again, that's quite the theory to set forth without any evidence.

But let's be clear, Ms. Tilton is not attempting to delay the sales process. She has no intention of delaying the sales process and she did not believe that the sales process needed to be delayed by the appointment of an independent manager.

The theory is also illogical, given the Patriarch stakeholders' financial interests in the company. The

Patriarch stakeholders' financial interests are entirely aligned with the debtors; let's get this company sold so that the Patriarch stakeholders can recoup their investment, as well.

In any event, it is entirely unclear to me how any delay could be accomplished with an order requiring the sale of the company by a date certain in place. The Court has ordered what it has ordered and Ms. Tilton remains committed to accomplishing a sale by that deadline; Ms. Tilton, of course, would testify to the same.

The election of an independent manager to shepherd the company through its sales process, someone who will call balls and strikes, with respect to the various stakeholders' interest in that company is all Ms. Tilton has denied, and allowing the negotiating process to play out over the next one to two months would leave the company with a new manager, at most, approximately two months prior to the Court-ordered sell-by date.

There's no record, there's no logical inference that can be drawn that a new independent manager with industry experience could not oversee the completion of the sales process in that time; in short, there's simply no justification for the extraordinary relief debtors request here. They have not pointed to a single thing the debtors prefer the company do that it cannot, given Ms. Tilton's

reasonable request that the parties attempt to agree on an independent manager.

The relief debtors seek is consistent with their pattern of prematurely and unnecessarily seeking Court intervention on an incomplete and even misleading factual record. While we recognize the Court cannot order the debtors to stop wasting estate resources with these ill-developed allegations and conspiracy theories, we ask that debtors' allegations lodged at Ms. Tilton be limited to those that can be supported by sworn declaration or documentary evidence.

As I suggested to the Court in February, the lawyers need to get out of the way so that these sales processes can move forward. Debtors' counsel's continual attacks against Ms. Tilton unfortunately have the effect of requiring Ms. Tilton to respond through her counsel and filings with the Court, unnecessarily taking up everyone's time and distracting the parties and taking away resources from the work that has been ordered by the Court: Sell the companies.

The Court should follow its instinct here and let the process play out in terms of the election of a new manager under applicable State law and the governing documents. Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MR. NESTOR: Your Honor, it's Mike Nestor. Might I be heard briefly with respect to three points?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. NESTOR: First of all, I heard no legal basis regarding the rescission argument; it's contrary to the documents and there's no basis for the alleged rescission.

Ms. Loseman can't rely on the LLC when it suits her and then not rely on it when it doesn't.

From our perspective, the resignation letter and Your Honor's order of March 30th has to have some meaning. The reason that we're not limited by State Court is because we're in bankruptcy and in bankruptcy, you have equitable powers that exceed those that are available outside of your courtroom. And to look solely to what remedies would have been available in State Court would limit the ability of Your Honor to enforce your orders.

And so, the resignation letter and the Court order have to mean something and if we look at what happened, putting all the -- I mean, I don't even want to say "conspiracy theories" because we don't have any -- we're just -- we're looking at the uncontested facts here. Is there a gap in the management at the company? We would submit there is.

Is the debtors' choice of itself reasonable? This is an entity and representative's that are accountable to

Your Honor.

Third, is Ms. Tilton's rejection of the debtor and refusal to submit a candidate 30 days after her resignation reasonable? And not only that, not expressly saying she doesn't intend to do it for a couple more months.

And does the resignation, the refusal to consent to the debtors' representative, and the refusal to even submit a candidate a month after her resignation violate Paragraph 6 of your order, Judge?

We come back to the transition order where you requested -- you ordered good faith transition of ownership and control. So, from the debtors' perspective, your orders have to mean something. Ms. Tilton's commitments, I went through each of them, have to mean something. She said -- that letter was sent to you. It was in the pleadings. It's got to mean something.

So, from the debtors' perspective, you have the authority. You have -- and both -- in fact, I looked them. Both sides cite the exact case law in terms of you have jurisdiction to interpret and enforce settlement agreements and accompanying orders approving settlements. You have the authority to do that.

We have a settlement agreement that was the culmination of litigation in this case. We have your determination that you have jurisdiction over Ms. Tilton and

these very Ark entities as Patriarch stakeholders, under the settlement agreement. You have the monetization procedures order which set forth a timeline and required joint process going forward, which is imperiled by the resignation without notice and the failure for a month to provide a candidate to take ownership of the company, to take leadership of the company with the deadline fast approaching. And we have your transition order which states that Ms. Tilton has to negotiate in good faith and reasonableness regarding the transition of ownership and control.

So, from the debtors' perspective, again, the orders have to mean something. Ms. Tilton's letter, which forms a basis of this entire dispute, her representations to Your Honor have to mean something and we can't be limited by State Court because we're not there; we're in Bankruptcy Court. You have broad equitable power and you have the ability to fashion remedies that are focused on enforcement of your orders.

So, again, from our perspective, there is a gap.

The debtors' choice is completely reasonable since we're accountable to you. Ms. Tilton has rejected that and failed to put another candidate in and has refused to do that for at least a couple more months and that, necessarily, will impact the sale process.

So, we think that you have more than enough

authority under your orders with respect to this one company to compel Ms. Tilton to do that, which we think needs to happen just to comply with your order.

And I would say you have done this before. You have determined you have jurisdiction to compel a sale. You have determined that you can determine the timing of the sale and the guidelines to the sale. So, we're asking you to continue to enforce your orders, exercise your judgment, and keep these processes on track, specifically, with respect to company number one.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Nestor.

MR. SHORE: Your Honor this, is Mr. Shore. May I be heard on that?

THE COURT: Yes, Mr. Shore. Go ahead. Sorry to cut you off.

MR. SHORE: Let me make one macro comment here because it keeps coming up at these hearings. There's a little bit of gaslighting going on here where the debtors come forward and explain the problem and the response on the other side is, You're seeing ghosts, you are overreacting, you're coming up with wild hypotheticals.

I'm just going to remind the Court that on one side, there is Ms. Tilton who has, for a decade, held out on the sale of these companies to great effect in many courts, and on the other side you have a raft of professionals who

have been in your court and other courts, you have an independent director, and you have a CRO, who you know, you've heard him testify. At some point, the Court is either going to have to accept that the reality perceived by those people is wrong and they are hysterical or what is going on here is a process, which we believe of making provocative statements, doing provocative things, walking them back before a hearing, or doing things just before a hearing and then coming in and proclaiming that the protagonist in the fight is hysterical.

I don't know what to do about that, but from Mr. Farnan's perspective, we talked about it, it's not appropriate in our view to take the independent director and the CRO and accuse them of seeing ghosts. They both came in here long after these loans were made, long after the litigation played out, and they have formed a view about what needs get done, to get the job done that they were both put in place to do and which Mr. Farnan has been ordered to do.

Second, the only thing that needs to be addressed right now is the extent to which the Court has jurisdiction to compel Ark to put a director in place. The Court has already found it has jurisdiction to direct Ark to sell the entire company. I'd leave aside, evidentiary or not, the wrong time to be giving your explanation as to why you don't want Z-III as a director is after all the pleadings have been

filed and for the first time, make a "proffer" on the record.

There was an opportunity for Ms. Tilton, up to today, to come up with an explanation as to why Z-III was not appropriate and under existing rules, quite frankly, she's waived the arguments that there is some other legitimate reason, other than "she wants somebody who can run the company with expertise over the next two months."

So, the Court is going to have to decide one way or the other and from Mr. Farnan's perspective, he is very concerned that if the Court finds it doesn't have jurisdiction to compel Ark to execute the consent, it's going to undermine the entire process that was set up to get these companies out of bankruptcy, because we're going to find ourselves in a situation where if you don't have jurisdiction to control that process, the process by which Ark, the party to the settlement agreement, controls the disposition of the asset by saying, essentially, there's an intervening jurisdictional cut that occurs by the appointment of an independent, we're going to be in a morass.

Is it certain to have them? No.

Is Mr. Farnan or Mr. Katzenstein seeing ghosts when they have concerns about that happening? No.

We certainly didn't expect, for example, that someone would take the position after two years in bankruptcy that the Court had no jurisdiction to do anything. It

happened. It played out.

And so, the time to address the jurisdiction is now. It's not a question of what the State law process is; it's a question of what the settlement agreement and the orders that this Court say about the Court's ability to direct the parties to the settlement agreement to effectuate the purposes of the settlement agreement.

Unless Your Honor has any questions, I have nothing further.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Shore.

MS. LOSEMAN: Your Honor this, is Ms. Loseman.

May I briefly respond?

THE COURT: Yes.

MS. LOSEMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

Let me address, first, Mr. Shore's suggestion that we are somehow gaslighting the Court. That allegation is, frankly, beyond the pale. Remember, this all started with extraordinary allegations regarding Ms. Tilton's provocative statements made in brief that were later disproved by us with evidence and then debtors continue to resist the need for an evidentiary hearing. They even suggested evidence wasn't necessary for this hearing regarding the second supplement and they continue to resist the presentation of evidence while, with the same breath, claiming that Ms. Tilton is somehow trying to delay the sale of this company.

From our perspective, it's not appropriate to make outlandish allegations regarding Ms. Tilton without evidence or without giving her an opportunity to defend herself in sworn testimony.

Let me just make a few brief points regarding comments by Mr. Nestor. The companies, let's remember, are not in bankruptcy and there's not dispute on this. This is made clear, even in the settlement agreement. The internal affairs and the affairs of management of the portfolio companies are not before this Court.

The sale of the companies, the ability to transact with a third party and interest into a sales agreement, that's clearly what this Court has jurisdiction over, but there is no record to conclude here that this internal control matter, how a new manager is to be elected by the existing equity holders in portfolio company one, there is no record to conclude that this Court has authority to essentially override existing LLC agreements and applicable State law on that question, especially where there is no record to suggest the election of a new manager puts in peril, the sales process or the Court's order, with respect to the sale of portfolio company one.

I want to emphasize, we agree, your orders do mean something, but your orders do not mean that debtors get their way whenever they want it without having to live by the terms

of an LLC agreement, to which they are now a party. Thank you.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much.

And I appreciate all the thorough presentation, so why don't I give you a few observations that have evolved while listening to you all.

With respect to the last set of comments regarding gaslighting, listen, everyone here has their narratives. I get it. It understand it. And I've been living with them since the case has been reassigned and I take them for what they're worth.

With respect to the relief requested in the second supplement of the debtors', I find that I do have jurisdiction (indiscernible) the relief sought directly affects property of the estate; mainly, the debtors' interests holdings in the company, company one; the rights and value related to those holdings; and the rights and value related to their outstanding holdings under the outstanding term loan facility.

Also, I believe it's appropriate that I consider the issues, rather than sending the parties to another court, perhaps a Delaware Chancery Court would be another logical forum, but given my history with these cases and the further delay that would be caused if the disputes are restarted in Chancery Court, I do think it's appropriate that I hear and

decide the issues.

With respect to the first form of relief requested by the debtors that I -- the request that find Ms. Tilton's rescission of her earlier resignation as sole manager of company one to ineffective, I will -- I would be prepared to grant this relief, as the resignations were deemed accepted upon the receipt, as acknowledged by all the parties, most effective at the time, pursuant to the applicable LLC agreement and there's been no case law or provision of the applicable LLC agreement cited to the contrary. And so, as such, portfolio company one currently has no manager.

To fill the position, the debtors, through their second form of relief, have requested or asked me to direct Ms. Tilton to execute a written consent on behalf of Ark II, appointing Zohar III as the sole manager of company one. And there's no dispute that to appoint the manager, the LLC agreement of company one requires the unanimous consent of its common members, that's Zohar III and Ark II, and the debtors want Zohar III to be manager and Ms. Tilton has said no and requested potential appointees with relevant industry knowledge who are independent.

It's clear unanimous consent has not been reached, but the problem is debtors have provided no legal justification under applicable State law for the relief they seek, which is not readily apparent to me and they say that I

can fashion a remedy to enforce my monetization order because of the deadlock reached between the parties; however, a deadlock is not yet here because no attempt to reach a consensus has been made to date so, so far, Zohar III is the only suggested appointee; however, it is clear that

Ms. Tilton doesn't agree. That was clear to me before this hearing and it's clear in the papers what she wanted, but it should not take four to six weeks for the parties to be able to find a replacement and, quite frankly, I question the need for an industry expert when there's so many qualified and independent professionals who can serve as manager.

So, therefore, I'm going to hold the motion in abeyance for one week and I want the parties to suggest their replacements and try to reach a consensus and you can report back to me through my courtroom deputy as to whether a replacement manager has been selected and if not, I'll decide what the next steps will be.

But before we move on to the next matter we're going to discuss today, I want to give a word of caution. I have not made a determination as to the reasons underlying Ms. Tilton's resignation from her position. Based on my observations of Ms. Tilton during the course of the February trial, I have no reason to disbelieve her claim that the resignations were motivated by a desire to preserve the value of the portfolio companies for the benefit of the customers,

vendors, and employees.

However, I acknowledge that that may not be her only motivation or an argument could be made that that may not be her only motivation and the timing of the resignation gives me great concern and has given me great pause as to whether Ms. Tilton's resignation will be used to further delay or avoid the monetization process. And to me, actions always speak louder than words, so I'm sure I will have a better understanding of why the resignation occurred as we move forward with the monetization schedule.

I expect a replacement manager for the company to be selected and the parties to focus on moving the monetization process forward, in light of the new landscape of control and the ownership that has sprung forth as a result of Ms. Tilton's resignation letter. I expect you to act with the understanding that the monetization process is and will continue and that, sadly, any further dilatory actions of the parties in this proceeding may not only destroy value to the debtors' stakeholders, but also will most definitely harm the thousands of portfolio company employees vendors and customers who are so very reliant on the portfolio companies now and into the future in light of the unprecedented economic crisis we are currently experiencing and will continue to experience for an unknown period.

I implore you not to lose sight of the many who are dependent on the portfolio companies for their livelihoods, as well as my belief that Ms. Tilton's resignations do not alter the obligations in the settlement agreement to monetize the portfolio companies.

And with that, I will adjourn the motion for one week and I expect to hear from you through any courtroom deputy and I will go ahead and enter an order on the motion to amend and make that clarification.

And with that, I understand there's a few more non-substantive matters that are on the agenda, with respect to motions to seal. I don't think objections have been raised, so do you need me to rule on those today or can you submit the orders under certification of counsel or certificates of no objection.

MR. NESTOR: Your Honor, it's Mike Nestor.

Why don't we just end the call and I'll submit them under certification of counsel if that works for you?

THE COURT: Unless there are parties that want to be heard on the motions today, that's satisfactory to me.

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay. Hearing nothing, then let's adjourn this hearing and I'll wait to hear from you in exactly one week. Thank you.

MR. NESTOR: Thank you, Your Honor.

1	MS. LOSEMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.
2	(Proceedings concluded at 3:04 p.m.)
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4	
5	CERTIFICATE
6	
7	I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript
8	from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the
9	above-entitled matter.
10	/s/Mary Zajaczkowski April 23, 2020
11	Mary Zajaczkowski, CET**D-531
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